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Attorney for the Alcohol and Drug
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State Board of Marriage and Family
Therapy Examiners

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FILED

SYATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

4. 2007

Eliza Le Den

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
OF THE STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF

PHILIP H. HARRISON, II, LCADC: License No. 37LC00139100

TO PRACTICE CLINICAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened before the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee") upon review of allegations that respondent and his wife, Laura M. Harrison, LCADC, had engaged in professional misconduct by borrowing \$10,000.00 from a client of Laura M. Harrison, identified as Mrs. M.

Respondent appeared before the Committee, <u>pro</u> <u>se</u>, on August 22, 2008 to discuss the allegations. Mr. Harrison testified that he

practices alcohol and drug counseling with his wife, Laura M. Harrison, LCADC, at Francis House, Harrison & Associates, 234 Maple Avenue, Red Bank, New Jersey. Respondent testified that Mrs. M was his wife's client from 1991 to 2006, he never treated Mrs. M and did not discuss Mrs. M's treatment with his wife. Respondent further testified that he had formed a friendship with Mrs. M and had invited and hosted her at his home for holiday dinners. Respondent also testified that he had visited Mrs. M's residence on several occasions and that she disclosed that she had substantial financial means. Respondent testified that he told Mrs. M that he had been ill, had significant financial problems and that she offered to lend him money to recover financially. Respondent acknowledged that he received \$10,000.00 from Mrs. M, which he deposited in his personal bank account and did not repay Mrs. M. Respondent admitted that during November 2003, he and his wife signed a promissory note agreeing to repay Mrs. M \$10,000.00 on or before February 3, 2004.

The Committee has reviewed respondent's experience in the field of alcohol and drug counseling, the documents submitted and his testimony before the Committee. The Committee has also considered respondent's acknowledgment of his errors, as well as his remorse relating to his inappropriate and unethical conduct. The Committee finds that his conduct constituted professional misconduct, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e). The Committee finding that the following disposition of this matter is adequately protective of the public, and other good cause appearing;

ordered:

1. Respondent's license to practice alcohol and drug counseling in the State of New Jersey shall be suspended for a period of five

- (5) years, the first three (3) years to be served as an active suspension, commencing January 1, 2009. The remainder of the suspension shall be stayed and served as a period of probation. No credit shall be given toward the period of active suspension for any time period during which respondent is practicing any type of counseling and/or any type of employment and/or ownership in a counseling practice or agency in the State of New Jersey or any other jurisdiction or state, whether or not such counseling and/or employment are provided in an exempt setting.
- 2. Respondent shall immediately cease treating any new clients and may continue until January 1, 2009 to treat existing clients only to provide appropriate referrals.
- 3. Prior to any application for reinstatement, respondent shall fully attend and successfully complete a three (3) credit graduate course pre-approved by the Committee in the subject area of ethics and boundary issues. Respondent shall submit written documentation of his successful completion of the course and that he fully attended the course in person (not a distance learning and/or internet program) and a certified copy of the transcript from the graduate program to the Committee. The three (3) credit graduate course preapproved by the Committee in the subject area of ethics and boundary issues may be used to complete the minimum number of required contact hours of continuing education in an application for reinstatement.
- 4. Respondent shall pay civil penalties in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and submitted to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

Providing that respondent complies with all other terms of this Consent Order, the civil penalty shall be stayed.

- 5. Two months prior to the end of the active period of suspension provided herein, respondent may apply for a restricted license upon demonstrating that he is fit and competent to re-enter the practice of clinical alcohol and drug counseling and has complied with all the terms of the within order. Upon any such application respondent shall submit:
- each job respondent engaged in during the time respondent listing each job respondent engaged in during the time respondent's license was actively suspended, including name of business or entity, address, name of supervisor, telephone number of supervisor, dates of employment and description of respondent's duties.
- b. Documentation that the course required pursuant to paragraph 3 of this order has been fully attended and successfully completed and a certified copy of the official transcript from the graduate program. Documentation of completion of all mandatory continuing education for the entire period of active suspension.
- c. If so requested by the Committee, respondent shall appear before the Committee where the burden shall be upon the respondent to demonstrate that respondent is fit and competent to practice to the Committee's satisfaction.
- 6. In the event the Committee finds that respondent has complied with paragraph 5 and is fit and competent to practice following the period of suspension, respondent's license shall be reinstated and respondent shall practice alcohol and drug counseling on probation for a minimum period of two years (2) pursuant to the following conditions:

- a. Respondent shall practice alcohol and drug counseling under the supervision of a supervisor pre-approved by the Committee. Respondent shall not be an owner of the alcohol and drug counseling facility, agency or private practice. The supervisor must have expertise in boundary issues. The supervisor shall sign a copy of this Consent Order or a subsequent Order filed by the Committee which shall be submitted to the Committee prior to respondent commencing employment as an alcohol and drug counselor. In the event the supervisor ceases supervising respondent, respondent shall cease and desist engaging in alcohol and drug counseling unless and until a new supervisor is approved by the Committee and submits a signed copy of the Consent Order or a subsequent Order to the Committee. Respondent shall immediately (within 24 hours) notify the Committee in writing of any change in supervision.
- b. Respondent shall provide all employers immediately upon commencement of employment with a copy of the within Order. Respondent shall be required to provide the Committee with a copy of this Consent Order (or a subsequent Order filed by the Committee) signed by each employer acknowledging that the employer has reviewed this Consent Order within ten (10) days of the commencement of employment.
- c. During the period of probation, respondent shall notify the Committee in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of any change in the status of his employment, including any change in location, responsibilities and/or title, or additional places of employment.
- d. Respondent's supervisor shall agree to report to the Committee in writing within 72 hours of awareness of any indication that respondent is not capable of continued practice or has violated the statutes or regulations governing the practice of alcohol and

- drug counseling or has been disciplined or terminated from employment. Such notice shall be provided to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee or her designee, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey 07102, (973) 504-6582.
- 7. If respondent's license is reinstated as provided in paragraph 6 above, two (2) months prior to the end of the period of probation provided herein, respondent may apply for an unrestricted license upon demonstrating that he is fit and competent to practice without any restrictions and has complied with all the terms of this Order or any subsequent Order of the Committee. If so requested by the Committee, respondent shall appear before the Committee where the burden shall be upon respondent to demonstrate to the Committee's satisfaction that he is fit and competent to practice without any restrictions.
- 8. Respondent shall comply with all statutes and regulations, as well as professional standards of conduct and obligations of licensed alcohol and drug counselors.
- 9. If respondent is reinstated, any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Committee shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that respondent has violated any term of this Order, respondent's license may be automatically suspended by the Committee. Respondent, upon five (5) days notice, may request a hearing to contest the entry of such order. At any such hearing the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding respondent was materially false.

In addition, the Committee reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

Sylvia Lippe, LCADC Committee Chair

I have read the above order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order.

Philip H. Harrison, II

EMPLOYER

I have read the within Order.

(Print name of signator) Name of Employer Address: Telephone #	License # Dated:	, 20
(including area code and extension number) SUPERVISOR I have read the within Order. I agree to the supervision and reporting requirements in this Order.		-
Print Name of Supervisor		
Address: Telephone Number License No.	Dated:	,20